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FACT SHEET
AIR NATIONAL GUARD
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

The Air National Guard is unique among the Reserve components. It serves the interests of the nation in its Federal status and responds to disasters and other emergencies when summoned to duty by the respective State governors. When serving in a State mission status, Air National Guard units are invaluable in assisting local authorities during natural disasters and a multitude of other emergency situations. The Air National Guard provides the major source of added strength and equipment to assist the Air Force during times of war or national emergency. This information sheet is being provided for clinical psychologists who desire information about the opportunities in the Air National Guard. The information is general and is subject to change. For more information contact the nearest Air National Guard recruiter or call the ANG Health Professions Recruiter at 301-981-3443.

ELIGIBILITY

- Must have a doctorate degree in clinical psychology from an accredited college or university acceptable to the Surgeon General, USAF and have completed a clinical psychology internship acceptable to the Surgeon General, USAF.
- A current free and unencumbered license to practice clinical psychology independently (not under the supervision of anyone else) in a state or the District of Columbia.
- Be less than 34 years of age.
- Be in good physical condition.
- Must be of high moral character and pass a security background investigation.
- Must be a US citizen.

PARTICIPATION

Air National Guard medical units meet one weekend a month. Both days are divided into two 4 hour periods known as Unit Training Assemblies(UTAs). Members are also required to perform 15 days of active duty each year designated as an annual tour. Members are usually expected to participate with the scheduled training periods. Your annual tour may be performed in various ways depending on the needs of the unit. They may serve this duty with their unit at your home base; with the unit during military training exercises; may attend certain national psychological association conferences for continuing education; or may be performed in active Air Force hospitals at locations throughout the United States or abroad.

ASSIGNMENT

Clinical psychologists participate in a variety of activities including the application of psychological procedures and techniques in the evaluation and diagnosis of psychological and neuropsychological disorders. You will be directly involved in assiting ANG Flight Surgeons in evaluating the mental health of aircrew members and ground personnel. You may find yourself involved in the evaluation and counseling of individuals suspected of substance abuse, as well as the training and education of ANG personnel concerning the psychological factors of substance abuse and its effects on their mental and physical well-being. You will also provide education and training in psychological theory, diagnostic techniques, and related mental health programs for other health professionals and mental health workers.

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BENEFITS

Listed below are a few of the benefits derived from ANG membership:

- An opportunity to serve both your state and nation.
- New and rewarding professional and social relationships
- A generous non-contributory retirement program at age 60.
- Use of military commissary and exchange privileges.
- Use of active duty recreation activities such as theaters, golf courses, fitness centers, hobby shops, bowling establishments, etc.
- Space available travel on military aircraft.
- Survivor benefits for your spouse and children.

MILITARY GRADE

Your military rank is determined utilizing a combination of your education, training, and experience. Under current directives most psychologists would be appointed as First Lieutenants. Those with more experience and training might be appointed at a higher grade. Each case is different and evaluated on its own merits.

PAY

Your pay will be determined by a combination of your military grade and the length of service. During weekend training you are paid for four (4) days of duty.

RETIREMENT

To qualify for retirement you must complete 20 satisfactory years of service and have reached your 60th birthday. To be eligible for a reserve retirement the last eight years of service must have been served in a reserve component. To have a "satisfactory" year you must accumulate at least 50 inactive duty training points; at least 35 earned by participation plus 15 gratuitous (bonus points) for actively participating. You also receive additional retirement points for each day of active duty that you perform. Once you have retired you receive the same retirement benefits as active duty personnel such as:

- A generous annuity.
- Medical care for you and your family.
- Survivor benefits for your spouse and family.
- Space available travel on military aircraft.
- Use of recreation and hobby facilities.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Air National Guard has openings for Psychologists at selected locations throughout the United States. Most psychologists can usually be temporarily appointed within 30 days from completion of their application. Several documents need to be completed, therefore copies of professional licenses and certificates need to be available. For further information contact the nearest Air National Guard Recruiter or call the ANG Health Professions Recruiter at 301-981-3443, or you can write the Air National Guard Support Center (ANGSC/SGAM), Mail Stop 18, Andrews AFB, MD 20331-6008.

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